

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**STATE HEALTH COMMISSIONER TESTIFIES BEFORE CONGRESS REGARDING INFLUENZA  
VACCINE SHORTAGE**

(Richmond, Va.)—State Health Commissioner Robert B. Stroube, M.D., M.P.H. testified before the U.S. Committee on Government Reform this morning in Washington, D.C. regarding the influenza vaccine shortage. This was the Commissioner's fourth appearance before this committee on issues involving the influenza vaccine. Dr. Stroube described actions taken to respond to the shortage and efforts to distribute available vaccine to high-risk populations. Dr. Stroube also noted the challenges Virginia faces in planning for the next influenza season and stressed the need for a more effective and reliable flu vaccine production and distribution system.

For more information on the flu vaccine shortage and a complete copy of Dr. Stroube's testimony, log onto the Virginia Department of Health's Web site at [www.vdh.virginia.gov](http://www.vdh.virginia.gov).